



1st BEDFORDVIEW SCOUT TROOP

DISA ROAD, BEDFORDVIEW

www.1stbedfordviewscouts.co.za

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/52684287286/>

GPS Co-Ordinates: 26° 10' 12" S 28° 08' 29" E

PO BOX 16117

DOWERGLEN

1612

20 July 2018

Ref: Troop 2018/03

Dear scouts and parents

WINTER NEWSLETTER

It is with great pleasure that I extend the heartfelt congratulations of the troop to Michael Omand on obtaining his Springbok Scout Award. Fewer than 1% of South African scouts ever obtain this accolade, which is a monumental achievement. It has been far too long since our last Springbok (Ricardo Peneda) but it appears that many scouts are attempting to emulate Michael's achievement and are working hard towards their own Springbok awards.

These include Jason Bailie, who recently obtained his Adventurer Badge and Michael Goncalves, Simon Kleer and James Bartlett who achieved their Pathfinder Badges.



In addition several scoutcraft badges have been awarded. Dylan Odgers and Connor Odgers obtained their Scoutcraft Climbing Badges, Matthew Williams and Ryan Cubitt earned their Scoutcraft Sailing Badges and Jarod Nunn, Simon Kleer and Michael Goncalves achieved their Survival Scoutcraft Badges.

Michael Omand sporting his Springbok Scout Award

Finally congratulations on to the scouts who have recently earned interest badges: Gordon Grossett on his Model Engineer Badge, Jason Bailie on his Pioneer Badge and Keanan Nunn and Jarod Nunn who successfully completed their Backwoodsman Badges.

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF SCOUTING EXCELLENCE

be prepared.....

Troop Scouter:
Assistant Troop Scouters:
Troop Helper:

Andrew Campbell 084 758 4189 (Andrew.campbell@scouts.org.za)
Stephen Westhoff 084 744 9100 (StephenW@cubicool.co.za)
Caleb Du Plooy 071 255 0266 (calebduplooy@gmail.com)
Kevin Botes 064 905 3196 (kevin.botes5@gmail.com)

I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to Kyle Botes, who has transferred to us from 1st Lambton. Kyle has taken over as PL of Kudu patrol. Good luck with the remainder of your scouting journey to Springbok.

A welcome must also be extended to Kevin Botes, who has joined the troop as a Troop Helper and will be assisting the scouters in producing quality programmes for the troop. I hope that you have a great deal of fun and learn a great deal during your time with the troop.



Michael, James, Simon and Michael learning about snakes

A number of camps and other excursions have been held since the last newsletter.

The older boys in the troop were invited to a white strip camp where they received training in the running of a patrol and in how to run patrol hikes, camps and other activities. The camp culminated in a hike at the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve which the scouts had planned themselves.

The camp was obviously a success as most of the patrols have been fairly busy. Sable Patrol ran a patrol camp and a community service project, Kudu has had two patrol meetings (both involving community service) and is planning a patrol hike, Wildebeest has run a patrol meeting and is also presently planning a patrol camp.

Kontiki was particularly well attended this year and saw the troop using their brand



Sable Patrol (and a helper or two!) on camp at the Modderfontein Conservancy

new army tent for the first time, which proved to be very useful. A massive thanks to the committee for purchasing the tent and to the parents and families for supporting the group financially, allowing the tent to be purchased.

The troop did fairly well this year, obtaining an 11th place for raft pioneering, a 9th for raft theme, a 10th for the beaver challenge, 6th for the campsite competition and a 10th place for the overall supporters competition. 59 teams took place in the event.



Scouting Demonstration at St Benedict's

As part of the preparation for the Survival Bash, members of the troop enjoyed an evening learning about the “deadly dozen” venomous snakes of South Africa. A massive thanks to Clive and the team from Snake City for an excellent demonstration.

Seven scouts also attended the gruelling Survival Bash on the banks of the crocodile infested Pongola River. The scouts hiked over back-breaking terrain to their campsite, where they took part in a variety of activities including paintball, marksmanship, stalking, veldcraft, mapping, first aid, making pizza and a game drive in the Ithala Game Reserve.



Marching to closing parade at Kontiki 2018

The camp primarily tests survival skills to the nth degree and four badges have already been awarded as a result of the Survival Bash. I would encourage attendees



who have one or two items outstanding on various badges to finish these as quickly as possible.

The troop also did some public-relations work at the St Benedict's Gathering, where the troop built a bridge as a public display. It is too soon to tell yet but hopefully we will get a recruit or two as a result of this.

“Showering” in rapids in the Pongola River

I trust that you all enjoyed the Soccer World Cup. I know that many of you were rooting for unlikely teams (I had Tunisia and Serbia) as a result of the Troop World Cup lucky draw. Congratulations go to Connor Odgers for winning the World Cup Draw. Connor picked France as the winning nation. His prize will be awarded at scouts on Friday.

Finally, I would like to congratulate James Bartlett, Michael Goncalves, Simon Kleer, Jarod Nunn and Michael Westhoff for being selected to represent South Africa at the 2019 World Scout Jamboree in West Virginia. I trust that you will keep the troop colours flying high!

90th Birthday Celebrations

By now you should all be aware of the 90th Anniversary Dinner that will be taking place at St Benedict's College on the evening of Saturday 28 July 2018.

Reaching one's 90th birthday anniversary is a rare achievement and I would encourage everyone to make a concerted effort to attend and to help us mark this milestone. This is a special time for the entire group to celebrate as a family and I would like to see most, if not all, of our scouts joining in the celebrations.



The dinner is open to all cubs, scouts, rovers, scouters, parents, alumni and friends of the group, so if you know anyone who has had anything to do with the group please extend them an invitation to join us. To book tickets please email

1stbedfordscouts@gmail.com. For more information please contact me and I will resend a copy of the formal invitation.

Troop Boot Hike

Due to circumstances beyond my control the District Pioneering Competition has been moved to the same weekend that we are meant to be running a troop camp. Rather than write off the camp entirely, we will be attending the Competition on the Sunday but will have a Troop Boot Hike (the District Boot Hike having previously been cancelled) on the Saturday.

The troop will accordingly be holding a boot hike on the 4th of August 2018 at the



Modderfontein Conservancy from 16h00 in the evening. This is very important for the patrol leaders as the hike will give them an opportunity to be tested on their Explorer Incident Bases. I would like to see all four patrols participating if possible.

The 2018 Bedfordview Survival Bash Contingent

The cost of the evening is R50,00 per person, which covers the cost of using the venue and a light breakfast. Scouts should bring a packed dinner for the Saturday evening. If you are interested in attending the boot hike please chat to your PL before 29 July 2018. Final details, including a kit list, will be sent off after that date to those who are attending.

District Pioneering Competition

The District Pioneering Competition will be taking place at our hall on Sunday 5 August 2018 from 12h00 to 16h00. There is no cost for this event and food and drink will be on sale. Please let your PL know by no later than 29 July if you are keen on attending this event.

The event will comprise of several small bases and one large project – building a structure to get your entire patrol over a tall wall. The troop ran a programme with this project earlier this year and has so had plenty of practice with the main project.

If you are keen on attending, please make an effort to learn your Pathfinder and Adventurer knots and lashings before the event. One of the bases will specifically test these skills so learning them will help your patrol win!

Injasuti Hike

Michael Westhoff has taken over the organisation of the Injasuti Hike as part of his First Class. The hike will be taking place from 28 September to 3 October at Injasuti in the Natal Drakensberg.

The area caters for all levels of scouts, from beginners (who will do a series of day hikes) to an overnight hike for more advanced scouts and finally to a three day expedition in the High Drakensberg for the “manne”. The three day expedition would be suitable for First Class or Springbok level hikes, though planning needs to be discussed.

The cost has not yet been finalised but a similar trip last year cost about R1 500,00. If you are interested in attending the hike please let Michael know (mwesthoff111@gmail.com) by 31 August 2018 at the latest.

Year End Camp

Many families plan their year-end holidays at around this time. A reminder that the annual year-end camp is scheduled from 13 to 17 December 2018. To avoid missing out on this ever-popular event please plan accordingly.

Gauteng Air Rally

Gauteng Province will be running an air rally at the Magaliesberg Gliding Club from 14 to 24 December 2018. Though aimed principally at air scouts, the invitation has been extended to all scouts and if air activities appeal to you (and your wallet stretches that far) you are welcome to apply to attend.



Michael’s mini-pizza – Survival Bash

The cost of the event is R2 500,00 per person which will include camping fees, food and a trip in a motor glider. Several aeronautically themed badges will also be covered on the event. A separate email will be sent out with more information.

If you are interested in registering visit <http://goo.gl/forms/L4d5jNEi9QiTk9UD3>.

Recruiters Badge

One badge that I would like to see all members of the troop earning is the silver recruiters badge. The requirement is quite simple – get a friend who is not involved in scouts to get invested as a member of the pack or troop.

The gold recruiter’s badge (which I have never awarded) goes to a scout who can successfully recruit five such friends. Are you up to the challenge to be the first to earn this badge in the troop?



Patrol Attendance

Remember that each patrol should be striving for a 75% aggregate attendance over the year. Are you doing your bit? Why not check out the attendance register on the notice board to see your personal attendance?

Striking camp at the Survival Bash

	Kudu	Sable	Springbok	Wildebeest
April	61,90%	61,90%	65,08%	66,67%
May	89,29%	64,29%	62,50%	71,43%
June	81,55%	75,00%	66,67%	64,29%
Average for Year	71,74%	64,60%	60,39%	69,57%

Patrol Points

The patrol points presently stand as follows:

- Kudu: 859,5
- Sable: 971
- Springbok: 826
- Wildebeest: 970

There is plenty of time to earn more points for your patrol before the AGM. Remember that you can get bonus points for the following:

- Earning an interest or scoutcraft badge: 20 points
- Earning and advancement badge: 50 points
- Bringing a someone new to their first scout meeting: 10 points
(Not an existing member of Scouts SA)
- Earning a gold recruiters badge: 200 points
- Having your patrol represented at a COH meeting: 10 points
- Running a patrol overnight activity: 100 points
- Running a patrol day hike: 50 points

Running a patrol meeting:

20 points

Upcoming Activities at a Glance

July:

28 90th Anniversary Dinner

August:

4 Troop Boot Hike (Modderfontein)

5 District Pioneering Competition

9 – 10 Kudu Patrol Hike

September:

1 – 2 Kim Shield

15 District First Aid Competition

29 – 30 Injasuti Hike Starts

October:

1 – 3 Injasuti Hike Continues

5 District Cooking Competition

12 District Swimming Gala

20 – 21 District Competition Camp

Yours in scouting

A Campbell
Andrew Campbell



Overlooking the Pongola River from the Ithala Game Reserve.